

News Release



CHURCHILL DOWNS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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EARLY NOMINATION DEADLINE FOR 2020 TRIPLE CROWN SERIES SET FOR SATURDAY

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Monday, Jan 20, 2020) – Early nominations for 3-year-old Thoroughbreds to compete in the three-race 2020 Triple Crown series – the \$3 million Kentucky Derby presented by Woodford Reserve (Grade I), \$1.5 million Preakness Stakes (GI) and \$1.5 million Belmont Stakes (GI) – are due Saturday, Jan. 25.

Early Triple Crown nominations cost \$600 and must be made at the time of entry on www.thetriplecrown.com or by calling the Churchill Downs Racing Office at (502) 638-3825. Information regarding mailing nomination forms can be found on www.thetriplecrown.com.

A late nomination period, which requires the payment of \$6,000 for each nominated 3-year-old, will open at 12 a.m. Eastern on Sunday, Jan. 26 and continue through Monday, March 30.

The 2020 Triple Crown opens Saturday, May 2 with the 146th running of the 1 ¼-mile Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Ky. The 145th Preakness, its 1 3/16-mile second jewel, is set for Saturday, May 16 at Pimlico Race Course in Baltimore, Md. The 152nd running of the Belmont Stakes, the series' 1 ½-mile final leg, is scheduled for Saturday, June 6 at Belmont Park in Elmont, N.Y.

Last year's early phase of Triple Crown nominations attracted 362 horses with four additional horses nominated during the second closing date.

Three-year-olds that were not nominated to the Triple Crown during either the early or late nomination phases have a final opportunity to become eligible for the races through payment of a supplemental nomination fee. Due at the time of entry for either the Kentucky Derby, the Preakness or the Belmont Stakes, the supplemental fee process makes a horse eligible for the remainder of the Triple Crown series. A supplemental nomination at the time of entry to the Kentucky Derby requires payment of \$200,000. The fee is \$150,000 if paid prior to the Preakness or \$50,000 at time of entry to the Belmont Stakes.

Representatives of the Triple Crown host tracks include:

- **Churchill Downs:** Racing Secretary **Ben Huffman** at (502) 638-3820 or Ben.Huffman@KyDerby.com. ... Assistant Racing Secretary and Stakes Coordinator **Dan Bork** at (502) 638-3806 or Dan.Bork@KyDerby.com. ... Racing Operations Manager **Kelly Danner** at (502) 638-3825 or Kelly.Danner@KyDerby.com.
- **Pimlico:** Racing Secretary **Chris Merz** at (800) 638-1859 or cmerz@marylandracing.com. ... Stakes Coordinator **Coleman Blind** at (800) 638-1859 or cblind@marylandracing.com.
- **Belmont Park:** Vice President of Racing Operations **Martin Panza** at (718) 659-4241 or mpanza@nyrainc.com. ... Stakes Coordinator **Andrew Byrnes** at (718) 659-4217 or abyrnes@nyrainc.com.

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